



City of Rockville, Maryland

White-Tailed Deer Task Force Recommendations to the Mayor and Council

March 2011

1. Adopt the revised White-Tailed Deer Management Plan.
2. Develop a database to track deer vehicle incidents. Use this data to map deer killed or injured. Map should identify specific locations and area. This data shall be analyzed and used by City staff when developing deer management activities for any given year.
3. Conduct flyovers using infrared technology to accurately portray the current white-tailed deer population in Rockville. Fund these yearly counts to take place during the winter months. The estimated cost is \$7,500 per year. The flyovers should be coordinated with the Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission. This data shall be analyzed and used by City staff when developing deer management activities for any given year.
4. Increase the height limit for backyard fences. Current Rockville City Code, Section 25.09.5, does not permit side and rear yard fencing over eight (8) feet in height. A change of 8 feet to 10 feet could enhance exclusion methods used by homeowners to protect landscaping and vegetable gardens, as well as prevent other nuisances related to deer.
5. Revise current Rockville City Codes 14-37 and 13-61, as outlined in this plan, to allow for direct reduction measures to the deer population as an action to provide safer roads and a white-tailed deer population within the recommended State of Maryland Department of Natural Resources biological and cultural carrying capacities.
6. Research traffic control devices related to deer crossings. Seek options of fencing or other possible methods to control deer where they cross significant roadways with high traffic and speeds.
7. Implement a public information campaign to better inform the public about deer, their benefits and impacts to urban areas. Provide ecological, biological and cultural information through all current media venues, including Rockville Reports, City of Rockville Web site and links to other agencies.